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AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
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(54) Title: **ULTRASOUND CONTRAST AGENTS AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF**

(57) Abstract: Method for preparing a lyophilized matrix and, upon reconstitution of the same, a respective injectable contrast agent comprising a liquid aqueous suspension of gas-filled microbubbles stabilized predominantly by a phospholipid. The method comprises preparing an emulsion from an aqueous medium, a phospholipid and a water immiscible organic solvent. The emulsion is then freeze-dried and subsequently reconstituted in an aqueous suspension of gas-filled microbubbles. The method allows to obtain suspensions comprising microbubbles having a relatively small diameter and a narrow size distribution.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A61K49/22 A61K49/18 A61K9/19

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 6 280 705 B1 (KLEIN DAVID H ET AL) 28 August 2001 (2001-08-28) claims; examples	35-40
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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